

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-13 EB-08 ARA-06 COME-00

/101 W

-----101546Z 102384 /53

R 100921Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1215

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 1271

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR OVIP MO ECON KS

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF VISIT TO MOROCCO BY SOUTH KOREAN EMISSARY

REF: SEOUL 1130

1. FORMER KOREAN PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENTIAL CONFIDANT KIM CHONG PIL VISITED MOROCCO FEBRUARY 22-24 AS PART OF HIS SIX WEEK TOUR TO SEVEN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN AND FOUR AFRICAN STATES.

ON FEBRUARY 23, THE KOREAN EMISSARY MET WITH KING HASSAN, TO WHOM HE DELIVERED A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT PARK, AND AHMED BENSOUDA, DIRECTOR OF THE ROYAL CABINET. AFTERWARDS, KIM EXPRESSED PUBLIC THANKS TO KING HASSAN AND MOROCCO FOR POSITIVE POSITION ON KOREAN QUESTION AND NOTED MUTUAL DESIRE TO WIDEN AND STRENGTHEN COOPERATION. KIM ALSO MET WITH DR. AHMED LARAKI, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND AHMED CHERKAOUI, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

2. ROK AMBASSADOR LEE BRIEFED AMBASSADOR MARCH 8 ON KIM VISIT: DURING KIM AUDIENCE WITH KING HASSAN, LATTER STATED THAT
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MOROCCAN SUPPORT FOR ROK HAD NEVER BEEN STRONGER AND THAT MOROCCO, AS MUSLIM COUNTRY, COULD NOT SIDE WITH COMMUNIST NORTH KOREA. KING PROMISED DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT IN NON-ALIGNED MEETINGS, UNGA AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORUMS, IF NEEDED. KIM LEARNED LATER FROM FOREIGN MINISTER LARAKI THAT KING HASSAN HAD DECIDED TO SEND MOROCCAN MILITARY OFFICERS TO KOREA FOR TRAINING. AMBASSADOR LEE STATED THAT NUMBERS AND TIMING NOT YET WORKED OUT,

BUT HE ASSUMED MOROCCANS WERE INTERESTED IN COMMANDO TRAINING.
(76 RABAT 4069).

3. MOROCCANS ALSO OFFERED TO ASSIST IN RESTORING ROK/MAURITANIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, LEE CONFIDED. FOREIGN MINISTER LARAKI UNDERTOOK TO SEND MESSAGES TO MAURITANIAN PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER ON KOREA'S BEHALF. (EARLIER, KOREAN AMBASSADOR LEE HAD DISCUSSED QUESTION OF RELATIONS WITH MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR TO MOROCCO AND HAD BEEN PROMISED RESPONSE UPON LATTER'S RETURN FROM CONSULTATIONS IN NOUAKCHOTT.) AMBASSADOR LEE MENTIONED THAT FIVE MILLION DOLLAR FISHING VENTURE CURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION WITH GIRM.

4. ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT, KING HASSAN HAD REQUESTED LIST OF AREAS IN WHICH KOREA COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE TO MOROCCO. KOREANS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO PURCHASE ABOUT 30,000 TONS OF PHOSPHATES ANNUALLY, LARGELY AS POLITICAL GESTURE IN THAT ROK ALREADY BOUND BY LONG-TERM CONTRACTS WITH US SUPPLIERS. KOREAN TEAM SCHEDULED TO VISIT RABAT AT MONTH'S END TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF GOM/ROK PHOSPHATE ACCORD. AMBASSADOR LEE ALSO NOTED THAT THERE WERE CURRENTLY FIVE KOREAN-MOROCCAN JOINT FISHING VENTURES IN OPERATION AND SIX MORE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF PLANNING.

5. AMBASSADOR LEE NOW AWAITING RETURN OF FONMIN LARAKI FROM CAIRO ABOUT MARCH 10 IN ORDER TO OBTAIN FURTHER READOUT ON GOM EFFORTS WITH MAURITANIA, PROPOSED MILITARY TRAINING, AND MOROCCAN ECONOMIC NEEDS. LEE WILL PERSONALLY CONVEY THIS INFORMATION TO KIM IN PARIS ABOUT MARCH 14.

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6. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT KIM TOUR IN KEEPING WITH PERIODIC KOREAN VISITS TO VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO KEEP UP SUPPORT FOR KOREAN CAUSE AND FEEL POLITICAL PULSE ON ISSUES OF INTEREST TO ROK. KIM VISIT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL TO BOTH GOM AND ROK ON WIDE RANGE OF POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ISSUES.
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Message Attributes

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